

HARGROVE, PESNELL & WYATT

BILLY R. PESNELL
JOSEPH L. HARGROVE, JR.
DAVID L. SMELLEY
PAUL A. STRICKLAND
SCOTT C. SINCLAIR
W. BROOKS MAY
JASON C. FALUDI

OF COUNSEL
WILLIAM G. CONLY

(A PROFESSIONAL LAW CORPORATION)

AMERICAN TOWER, SUITE 600
401 MARKET STREET
SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA 71101-3239

THOMAS J. WYATT (1942-1996)

MAILING ADDRESS
POST OFFICE BOX 59
SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA 71161-0059
TELEPHONE (318) 429-7200
TELECOPIER (318) 429-7201

September 9, 2003

Honorable James H. Welsh
Commissioner of Conservation
State of Louisiana
Post Office Box 44275
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-4275

Re: APPLICATION FOR PUBLIC HEARING.

James Lime, Reservoir A, WEST BRYCELAND
FIELD, Bienville Parish, Louisiana.

Dear Sir:

EL PASO PRODUCTION COMPANY ("Applicant") hereby respectfully applies for a public hearing to consider evidence relative to the issuance of an Order pertaining to the following matters relating to the James Lime, Reservoir A, in the West Bryceland Field, Bienville Parish, Louisiana:

1. To authorize Applicant to complete, designate and utilize its Merritt D No. 1 Well as an alternate unit well for JA RA SUB, said well being located as shown on the attached plat, in exception to the well location provisions of Office of Conservation Order No. 241-D, effective April 10, 2001.
2. To find that designation and use of the Merritt D No. 1 Well as an alternate unit well for JA RA SUB is necessary to efficiently and economically drain a portion of the James Lime, Reservoir A, underlying JA RA SUB which cannot be efficiently and economically drained by any existing well on such unit.
3. To permit the operator of JA RA SUB to produce the allowable assigned to the unit from either the unit well, the alternate unit well, or from a combination of such wells, at the option of the operator.
4. To consider such other matters as may be appropriate and justified by the evidence presented at the hearing held herein.

The James Lime, Reservoir A, in West Bryceland Field, Bienville Parish, Louisiana, was fully defined in Office of Conservation Order No. 241-D, effective April 10, 2001.

Pertinent data concerning this application is available for inspection at the offices of Louis Gilbert & Associates, Inc., 3636 North Causeway Boulevard, Suite 204, Metairie, Louisiana

dls/app/wbryceland9.application

Honorable James H. Welsh
September 9, 2003
Page 2

70002-7216. Any person wishing to inspect such data should call Mr. Louis Gilbert at (504) 834-8112 during normal business hours in order to arrange a date and time for such inspection. A copy of any such data which is not otherwise available at the Office of Conservation can be obtained from Applicant at the expense of the requesting party.

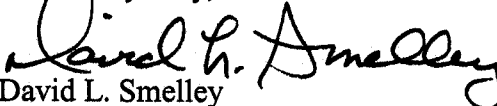
As provided by the Revised Rules of Procedure, the subject matter of this application does not require the issuance of a pre-application notice; therefore, no such notice has been issued.

Pursuant to the aforesaid Rules of Procedure, Applicant has made a reasonable effort to obtain the names and addresses of all Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties to whom notice of this application is being sent and has attached hereto a list of the names and addresses of such parties. A copy of this letter, and of the attached plat, is being sent to the District Manager of the Shreveport District of the Office of Conservation and to the Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties, as shown on the attached list.

Applicant will provide for posting of a copy of the Legal Notice of this hearing, and the enclosed plat, at a prominent place in the area affected and will cause publication of the Legal Notice in a newspaper published in the general area of West Bryceland Field, all in accordance with the Revised Rules of Procedure. Furthermore, Applicant will mail a copy of the Legal Notice to all Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties promptly upon receipt of the Legal Notice from the Commissioner.

A check payable to the Office of Conservation and covering the application fee is enclosed.

Yours very truly,


David L. Smelley

-- Attorney for El Paso Production Company

DLS:dp
Enclosures

cc: Mr. Jim Broussard (w/encls.)
Mr. Jerry Anderson (w/encls.)
Ms. Shirley Galik (w/encls.)
Mr. Louis Gilbert (w/encls.)
Interested Owners, Represented
Parties and Interested Parties (w/plat only)

dls/app/wbryceland9.application

